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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1921.

One Complete Law.

NOTHING could bring more of relief to all taxpayers than the announcement from the Senate Finance Committee that the revenue laws are to be rewritten. It is to be a simplified and complete document. Whether this is the Smoot bill which is simplicity in the nth degree, or some other form of tax levies, the fact that it probably will be possible hereafter for an honest man to discover what his honest tax is, without hiring a lawyer and an expert accountant, will help a lot.

As The Herald pointed out, the tax revision bill as it came from the House, was but less than a monstrosity. It consists of eighty-odd pages of amendments. To discover the law, these pages of amendments would have to be fitted into the law as it now stands, and many of them are largely verbiage. The cost of discovering what was a man's tax, would add even more materially than it was to the tax itself. The cost of verifying the return, of checking up and investigating would also require an even greater force of Federal experts than under the present law. As Senator Penrose says: "The amendment form of tax legislation has turned out to be very unsatisfactory."

The need is for simplification almost as much as for revision. As it is, not even the Federal officials agree on the interpretation of the law. Orders for changes, new rules contradicting or revising prior rules, reinterpretations and new orders from within the revenue service, have followed each other in a bewildering way. What the law means is often but the judgment of the individual in charge of a particular branch of the service covering some class of taxable property or income. With this condition inside the collecting agency, no man of considerable, let alone large, business affairs, can be sure after hiring an expert to make his return, that it is correct.

The House bill would make this far worse. If then the Senate will rewrite the present revenue laws into one complete whole, simplifying it so even a trained accountant can tell what it means, it will have rendered a great service. If in addition, the committee will do something after the manner of the Smoot bill, to reduce the excessive number of taxable subjects, they will have piled service on service. As for the "ultimate consumer," of whom we are which, it is just as well for him to remember that in some way or other, he probably will pay the tax, no matter how or on what it is levied. It is to his primary interest then, to know just what the tax is, that he may be fairly assured he is not only paying what goes to the government, but is not also paying several times as much, as with "excess profits," in the form of excessive profits.

The hot-air system on the Hill is being renovated for a long period of overcapacity demand beginning September 21.

League's Second Session.

THE league of nations now holding its second session, is reported as feeling quite pert. It is less disturbed by the absence of the United States. It has more confidence in itself. It has plenty of work to do and is establishing working conditions with rules of procedure. It has had time to think over its duties, powers and interrelations. It and the world are a big year older and it feels that its field of usefulness is better realized.

Its relative importance has been greatly amplified by the reference to it by the supreme council of the Silesian problem. A year ago it was rather dwarfed by the smaller body and many wondered if the supreme council would not take its place, rendering it a fifth wheel. It is now the council which has proved inadequate and the league jumps in importance. The Silesian problem has been referred to the four temporary members of the league council, the representatives of China, Belgium, Spain and Brazil. The permanent members were, by common consent, regarded as parties at interest, or so interlocked in interest as not to have judicial freedom. This helps assure a unanimous agreement and is a practical surrender of veto by Great Britain, France, Italy and Japan.

Again the United States has relieved the league of one of its most difficult decisions, that on disarmament. By taking this over in a limited, less inclusive form, but including the causes for armament, this government has done the league a decided favor. The league might well hesitate, without the United States, to attempt to regulate the "open door," or how far any one country should go in control over the political affairs of another, under the guise of economic penetration.

A third benefit is the assurance of the organization of the world court. Already more than the required number of governments have accepted this plan and agreed to its jurisdiction. Mr. Root was nominated as a judge by so many governments that his election was assured. He has, however, declined on the plea of age. It may be surmised that the real reason is the failure of his own country in ratifying what was so largely his work. But so it is that, the league begins its second meeting in rather high fettle. It believes it has a place of much service and feels a new confidence in its permanence and that it is equal to the task as an agency to preserve world peace through good understanding, much the same task as that of the Washington conference in the immensely important, but less inclusive field of the Pacific.

Congress is enjoying the novelty of being unemployed on a salary.

Look Pretty!

IN November 500 or more representatives of five of the greater nations of the old world will come to Washington, the Capital of the great republic of the new world. The residents of this city are asked to clean up the streets, put the parks in order, slick up their lawns, cut the weeds, pick up scraps and make the city look like a child with a freshly washed face.

This is well. It should be done. If Washington is dirty, it should have its face washed and look pretty. If its streets and parks are littered, not well groomed, not as attractive as they can be made, this should be cared for. If residents have become careless as to their home properties, they should take a hitch in their pride. If anything can be done to improve the entire city's personal appearance and make an impressive show of good citizenship, it should not be neglected.

The Herald believes in such campaigns. All cities need the occasional spur, but if any should not, that one is Washington. This city is fond of its title of the "Capital City." Its people never weary of realizing the fact that this is the seat of government. That fact carries with it an obligation, as do all like facts. The 500 coming to the conference are in numbers, but a handful as compared to the number of visitors who are here daily. Why show off only for the distinguished few who, with a half dozen exceptions, are really no more distinguished or famous than those who daily see the sights of Washington.

This is the most beautiful city in the world. It is the most open, with its wide streets and many parks. It is the easiest for strangers to see so far as the chief objects of interest are concerned. It is a joy to visit Washington because of this. It is a peculiarly well ordered, well planned, well grouped city. It is not a mass of incongruities, of narrow ways and limited vision. It is a delightful place of residence. All of which is all the more reason for those who live here to realize their obligation to themselves, their city and their country to be always groomed for callers.

This is "The Heart of America." That fact carries a great responsibility. When we "do it for Washington," we "do it for America," for our country of which this is the "Heart" from which its governing life blood flows. If this responsibility necessitates a trifle higher rate of taxation, it would be money well expended and repaid both in cash and a conscious satisfaction evidenced in self-respect.

New York is still complaining of the lack of publicity of its divorce proceedings. Yet the readers of its papers frequently have to hunt for the want ads in the debris of the divorce scandals.

Judge Landis.

THE American Bar Association went a long way out of its way to condemn Judge Landis for accepting private employment as arbiter of baseball disputes. He gets a salary for this, or, otherwise, he must also have been condemned for being arbitrator in the Chicago building trades disputes. Why not investigate to find if he has investments in mines, in railroads or other securities, in some industry or business shop, in an apartment house or a bank?

If it is so wicked for a judge to have an added income from one source, why except other sources common to practically every lawyer who wears the "ermine?" There is but one reason why Judge Landis was chosen and is paid a large salary by the baseball "magnates" to act as their personal court of arbitration; it is the same reason he was selected to arbitrate labor disputes, and the same reason that makes him an admirable judge. People have complete confidence in his fairness, his honesty, his courage and his exact sense of justice.

Ethics, other than as a science of morals, is in a man and not a cloak he puts on. All the rules of ethics which the bar frames for the guidance of its members in their profession, are but the outward evidences of an aspiration. If the character was there, the rules would not be necessary. Professional rules of ethics are admirable as witnesses of striving toward the unattained, and a judicial standard by which the solvent measure the insolvent. Most attorneys need no such rules. Their own consciences, their own conscious integrity, are their guides of right and wrong, and Judge Landis, by popular verdict, is such a lawyer.

Congressmen have probably never worked harder than during their thirty days unemployment, in explaining that their pay is not based on quantity production and that the present session is really overtime.

Right Kind of "America First."

IT is exceedingly gratifying to all Americans that it is Americans with American food who have first reached starving Russia from outside sources. The American Relief Administration was in operation in the neighboring countries. As soon as Gorky's appeal came the response was sent. There was not an hour's delay in starting negotiations and while these were under way, preparations were being made to send the organization into Russia.

Within thirty days from the cablegram responding to Gorky, the kitchens were in operation and the first thousands of starving Russian children were being fed. There never has been another example of greater promptness, of greater efficiency on a like scale. This was the heart of America pumping out life blood to save the lives of others.

At Geneva when the allied representatives met to consider ways of joint relief it was Mr. Brown, of the A. R. A., who alone had facts as to the situation, who alone could tell of the actual conditions, for only Americans were on the ground and had reached the famine area. While others have talked and discussed, have considered ways and means and debated, this country, through the A. R. A. has been able to act. This is not a reflection on other countries. They will respond. They will strain meagre resources to do so. But this country is there to make possible relief by others, coming in time.

It is not a pleasant place to be. The horrors of famine and disease are enough to strain the courage and physical powers of those of the relief organization. But besides this they are in a hot-bed of political intrigue and suspicion. They are surrounded by the agents of a none too friendly armed dictatorship. It is a condition of terror piled upon horror. But in it all and through it all, those of the A. R. A. have but one job—feeding hungry, near-famished children and aiding the sick. They are about their work and if there is a power which can win the confidence of even the Soviet, they will win it.

The British no sooner begin to see daylight in Ireland than darkness settles over India.

New York City Day By Day Impressions

By O. O. McIntyre

NEW YORK, Sept. 4.—A page from the diary of a modern Samuel Pepys: Up betimes and with F. Ziegfeld by gasoline buggy to his house boat and Miss Billie Burke there, as lovely as ever I saw her, and came G. Miller, Sir Henry's son, newly come from London and we ate of a hashed pullet on the verandah.

It was pretty to see the gulls skim along the waters and the aged mariner vowed they followed barques all the way across. Back to the city and with my wife, poor wretch, through the town, meeting Bruley, the poet, who was on a new panegyric and lost in thought. Saw, too, W. Farnum, the cinema player, in a brave new turned hat.

Home and at my poor scribbling and casting my accounts until Raymond Carroll, the pamphleteer, came and we talked of this and that, rag, tag and bobtail. Then off with him to a new palatial at the gallery, a noble canvas done by a boy of the East Side, and to the park zoo gardens to see Bessie, the ape, who seems to miss her master, M. Johnson now in Africa, not at all and I posted the news to him.

Sat awhile with my wife in the evening and her she-cousine came and much foolery, then I away with F. Hope to see the new African music show; very good. Afterward to the apothecary for a beaker of pineapple juice and to home and to bed.

The house detective in a New York hotel invariably stands close to the newstand in the lobby, arms akimbo and derby pushed back. He has to be alert and on the qui vive, as we say on the boulevards. The day one in a large hostelry near the Grand Central had a careless moment and some pick-pocket got his gold tucker, as we say in the underworld.

Doctors have been unable to explain "subway fat." Train guards flashing to and fro under the mighty island began to take on weight from the time they enter the stuffy, subterranean depths. Yet they eat less. One guard who has been in the service ten years weighed 143 pounds when he took his job. He now weighs 237. Also he had a throat affection which was only relieved by a dry climate but it has completely disappeared.

Just a few more disillusionments and I will be convinced Santa Claus is a myth. A man who knows the West—rode the range and herded with Arizona cowmen—tells me that nearly all the top-notch cowboys are mere Sears-Roebuck cowboys. They ruin the back and mouth of every horse they ride. And just the other day I learned that the most skilled delineator of ribald intonations in New York stage has never taken a drink in his life.

It is an eating place in West Thirty-fourth street where the service is quick and the food good. The patrons are mostly those hardened souls who must catch the 6.18. The order feverishly, gulp the food and scurry away loaded down with bundles of all shapes.

A little man with pleading eyes and a staple white vest sat at a table next to mine where I was leisurely having a modest lunch. He pecked at his food in quick, vicious jabs of the fork. Jerried out his watch every minute or so and ordered "apple pie a la mode, with cream"—those were his words. Finished, he took a tiny comb from his pocket, preened his mustache and scooted away.

made a mental reservation that he was a life-born commuter. The next day I saw him in a blue uniform, caparisoned in gold, marching in a lodge parade. Every few steps or so he would take a quick look at his watch. I wonder what happens when a commuter misses a train?

Horoscope For Today

What the Stars Indicate

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1921.
Astrologers read this as an uncertain day, for while Venus and Jupiter are in benefic aspect, Uranus and Saturn are adverse.

The early part of the day should be profitable for all who deal in clothing, millinery or any accessory to wearing apparel.

Although there will be much talk of economy at this time, dress will occupy unusual attention and involve large expenditures on the part of men as well as women.

The seers declare that by a strange contradiction in psychology men and women who have won fame or high place will concern themselves about their personal appearance in a way that proves how great power the stars that encourage vanity now are exercising.

Uranus is in an aspect stimulating to intrigue and deception, which will be largely practiced by women as well as men.

The sign that is held to cause misrepresentation and contempt for truth has power to affect persons at this time.

It is a most unlucky rule under which to speculate. Caution should direct all business projects.

SHOW 'EM THEY ARE NOT ABOVE THE LAW

By The Chicago Tribune



MINERS

WINE OPERATORS



Open Court Letters to The Herald

League of Religions.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:
Will a world league of nations prevent war? No. Only regeneration of the human heart can do that. Will a world league of religions save the world?

If the preachers would preach the pure gospel of Jesus Christ, without mixing up with it the traditions that have come from outside sources that contradict the express commandments of God, and then the church people would live up to such teaching, the world would be won for Christ, and sin would be as long as sin lives, war will live.

Jesus founded the Christian church. He founded only one church and he said: "If ye love me, keep my commandments." He desires only one church. His true disciples do love Him and His true church does keep His commandments. A church is not good simply because it is a church. It is good if its members follow His line and keep the commandments of God. "Sin is the transgression of the law"—the great moral law of the Ten Commandments of God. The rank-and-file heathen have churches and devoutly worship their idols. They have faith in them. Yet their churches are false. Christian churches are not churches of Christ simply because they claim to follow Christ or because their members recognize Him as the Son of God. The true Christian church actually follows Christ. A combination of churches following partly Bible doctrine and partly tradition that contradicts the fundamentals can never be Christianized. The world's "prayers of the wicked are an abomination to the Lord."

Religion is a matter that rests between man and his Creator, and God is able to vindicate His own law and His own people. He will deal justly with the transgressors, whether they be churchmen who attempt to change His law, or laymen who care naught for His Law. We are our brother's keeper, but we are to encourage and invite him to true Bible principles, not drive him into keeping a bad tradition. Jesus did not believe in a union of church and state. He said: "Render therefore unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's and unto God the things which are God's." He never appealed to the civil law for the enforcement of any doctrine. He taught:

It would be possible to fill to overflowing all the vacant pews in the many churches, but if the people's hearts are filled with sin and rebellion, more harm is done to the church than if they had remained away. If sinners come by invitation, and after hearing that which stirs their hearts are converted, the church has gained and there is joy in Heaven. Even though the number of the things which are added to the church is but one—it is precious one. When sinners are driven into church because the civil law leaves them nothing else to do, they will hate the sight of a church. He describes it as: "Here are they that are called but are not chosen." God and have the faith of Jesus. He meant that they keep all the commandments, including the fourth as it is written in Holy Writ. Any league of churches which is founded upon any other basis than the Bible never save the world. It is like an electric car with the current stopped. Divine power is granted only to the obedient, and without the power of God, the churches are Babylon—confusion and confusion cannot save the world.

MINN. PEARL LILIAN TRUMAN.
To the Editor, The Washington Herald:
Someone has written about having the windows screened at the jail and a paper took the matter up in an editorial with the result that Commissioner Rudolph and John Joy Edson, chairman of the Board of Charities, have both promised that the men who are kept in an editorial with the result that Commissioner Rudolph and John Joy Edson, chairman of the Board of Charities, have both promised that the men who are kept in a whole lot of trouble and slightly above it, and not at a price that would make a war-time profiteer tear out his hair in jealous anger.
A FORMER GUEST.

Takes Issue With Irvine.

To the Editor, The Washington Herald:
Having read the article on the soul by Edward J. Irvine, I am sorry for him as also for the others who reject what God says about the soul and about Heaven and earth. For if we take our own little fallen brain and reasoning powers and go against the revealed will and word of God, we can believe any old thing and our ideas will be somewhat contradictory and mixed. God never

The Herald Scientific Notes and Comments

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 1921.

RADIO MEN HEAR ABOUT SHA AND IXM.

Two out-of-town stations that Washington radio enthusiasts have been receiving signals from were described at the meeting of the Washington Radio Club at the American Association of Engineers Hall Saturday night.

W. F. Harman, of the Bureau of Standards, discussed the apparatus of the station, SHA, located in Pennsylvania, and Edwin C. Bruce, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology described the station, IXM, at that institution.

Word has been received from the First National Radio convention that was held at Chicago during the past week that the series of lantern slide lectures, which described various well-known stations, and which were assembled by E. Kruse and H. A. Snow, members of the Washington club, were a prominent feature of banquet of the convention.

PLAN HEARINGS ON METRIC BILLS.

Hearings on the legislation now before Congress to provide for the establishment of the metric system of weights and measures in this country will be conducted by a subcommittee of the Senate committee on Manufacturers, which has been named. Senator McNary, of Oregon, is chairman and the other members of the committee are Senators Weller and Jones, of New Mexico.

TESTS COMPARE CLAY AND CEMENT BRICKS.

Elaborate tests, whose results will form the basis of revisions in building codes, are now being made at Columbia University, in New York. So far these tests seem to show the superiority of the cement and concrete brick over the clay brick now in use. More data is being obtained and testing engineers there believe that their work will allow removal of handicaps now imposed upon the cement and concrete brick industry.

"Various kinds of cement and concrete bricks designed and manufactured to compete with the clay bricks used extensively in the building industries of New York City have been tested at the testing laboratories of the department of civil engineering, Columbia University," said a statement by Prof. Albin H. Benson, who is in charge of the tests. The American Society of Mechanical Engineers, has been conducting a thorough investigation of the theory of elastic failure of the ductile ferrous metals.

The manufacturing processes and the quality of these new kinds of brick have already reached the stage of active competition with the better grades of clay bricks.

Under the existing building code, the knowledge, cement and concrete bricks are used as building materials, under the specifications and standard physical tests for clay building bricks. It is now being realized that due to the wide variety of tests that are available, the standard specifications for clay bricks cannot in fairness compare with the more homogeneous kinds of concrete brick developed to date.

"At present the cement and concrete brick industry is now handicapped to a material extent by the lack of provisions in the building codes for this new material, but before the necessary provisions in the codes can be made, reliable and complete test data must be available. The tests now being made will furnish the necessary data."

NEW BIRD LAW PROHIBITS GUIDES FROM MAKING KILL.

A tendency to tighten the restrictions on the hunting of birds and big game is noted in the game laws for 1921, a summary of which, both of the Federal and State laws, compiled by the Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture and published as Farmers' Bulletin 1235. Among the notable changes made during the present year was the enactment of the migratory bird treaty act regulations with respect to bag limits.

This amendment provides that the daily bag limit of any person shall not include any birds taken by any other person who for hire accompanies or assists him in taking migratory birds. This will put an end to the abuse at privilege under the present law of the migratory bird treaty act regulations with respect to bag limits.

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